



Serial No.: 09/728153

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*D. Lawrence*  
*#61a*  
PATENT  
*3.31.04*

Applicant: Nomura, et al.

Examiner: Latoya I. Cross

Serial No.: 09/728153

Group Art Unit: 1743

Filed: December 2, 2000

Docket No.: 01875.0005-US-01  
Previously QSTR-01.0

Title: SURFACE-MODIFIED WICK FOR DIAGNOSTIC TEST STRIP

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 18, 2004.

Hallie A. Finucane  
Name

*Hallie A. Finucane*  
Signature

REPLY SUBMITTED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAR 24 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Dear Sir:

This Reply is submitted in response to an Office Action mailed December 19, 2002. Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2. Remarks begin on page 6, following the listing of claims. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.